Target for improvement of land

†904. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total area targeted to be improved by Government under the schemes of Department of Land Resources such as Drought Prone Area Programme, Desert Development Programme and Integrated Barren Land Development;

(b) the percentage of target achieved so far;

(c) by when the target is likely to be achieved; and

(d) the reasons for delay in achieving the targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL): (a) and (b) The Department of Land Resources (DoLR) in the Ministry of Rural Development is implementing three watershed development programmes namely the Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP) (not Integrated Barren Land Development), the Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and the Desert Development Programme (DDP) for treating the wastelands and degraded lands in accordance with the Guidelines for Watershed Development with effect from 1.4.1995.

Under DPAP and DDP an area of 745.914 lakh ha. and 457.949 lakh ha. respectively have been identified by a High Powered Technical Committee headed by Prof. C.H. Hanumantha Rao, Ex-Member, Planning Commission. Under IWDP, projects are sanctioned for treatment of degraded/wastelands in non DPAP/DDP areas. Physical target is fixed on year to year basis for sanction of new projects subject to availability of funds for the programme, after meeting the liability for ongoing projects.

From 1.4.1995 till 30.09.2003, the number of projects and area sanctioned under DPAP, DDP and IWDP are as under :

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Programme	No. of projects sanctioned	Area sanctioned for treatment (in lakh ha.)	Percentage of area sanctioned for treatment under watershed approach to the total identified area
DPAP	18803*	94.015	12.60
DDP	9865*	49.325	10.77
IWDP	579**	46.18	

* Each project consists of 500 ha. area

** Each project consists of 5000-6000 ha. area

(c) and (d) The allocation of funds under these programmes are made by the Planning Commission annually. Keeping in view the vast area of wastelands/degraded lands and area already identified under DPAP and DDP in the country and the limited resources available for the purpose, no specific time frame can be indicated for treatment of the balance area.

Financial assistance to Andhra Pradesh under ARWSP

905. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the financial assistance provided to Andhra Pradesh under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) during the last three years, year wise;

(b) how it compares with other Southern States, State-wise; and

(c) the number of rural water supply schemes implemented in each of the Southern States during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNA SAHEB M.K. PATIL): (a) and (b) The details of financial assistance provided to Andhra Pradesh and other southern States (Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu) under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) during the last three years are given in the statement enclosed as Statement (See below)

(c) Rural Drinking Water Supply is a State subject. Powers to plan, sanction, and execute individual rural drinking water supply schemes